

March 21, 1985

Mr. Elmer Griffin  
521 West Locust  
Springfield, MO 65803

Dear Mr. Griffin:

As you are aware, the City has occasionally experienced gasoline-like odors in the sanitary sewer in your neighborhood. This office has spent many hours investigating the source of the problem with no success.

On March 19, 1985, the sanitary sewer serving your home was smoke tested. As a result of this test, we discovered a floor drain in your basement is missing the clean out plug, allowing gases and vapors to enter your home.

The fact that vapors are entering your home from the sanitary sewer indicates a potentially serious health and safety hazard exists. Some of the more common dangerous gases that exist in the sewer and their hazards (from Safety In Wastewater Works) are:

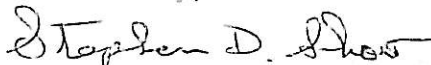
Carbon monoxide -- Colorless, odorless, non-irritating, flammable, explosive, hemoglobin of the blood has a strong affinity for the gas which causes oxygen starvation in the tissues.

Methane -- Colorless, odorless, non-poisonous, flammable, and explosive.

Hydrogen sulfide -- Rotten egg odor in small concentrations, colorless, poisonous, flammable, and explosive.

Plumbing in good repair is designed to prevent sewer gases from entering the building. If you need any further information, please feel free to call 864-1924.

Yours truly,



Stephen D. Short

Water Pollution Control Inspector II

SDS/dc

cc: Cory Smith, Dir. Building Regulations  
Henry Cole, Sanitary Engineer

521 W. Locust